

and I think that we have the ability to propose these types of amendments and make these types of suggestions, if you will, especially in light of the reports that are out, the need that is present and the, I guess, unarguable desire to see this issue become one that doesn't necessarily tear us apart but can very likely bring us together. The need is there to improve the entire engineering education system within the State of Nebraska. It's not just limited to the campus at UNO. It is across the board. It means that there needs to be improvements in the system at UNL. It needs to be done in an orderly way, Senator Warner is correct, but in order to have that expansion done in an orderly way from both within and without the university system, as the report suggests, you have to have somebody there on the campus who has the ability to operate in an administrative function and that's why the dean is so sorely needed. It is a small component of that continuation of that orderly process. The additional faculty are much needed and I appreciate, Senator Wehrbein, all the work that the Appropriations Committee did in this area. It is very much needed and very much appreciated, the \$2.2 million in capital construction that will go to the Lincoln campus,...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ..the 900 thousand, 500 of which goes into planning on UNO in this area. That \$500,000 needs to have somebody there in the form of a dean who can work on that issue and can help bring the planning money to fruition down the road in that separate College of Engineering. It is not my intent, Senator Wesely, to intimidate this body. I.. you know me better than that. I do a poor job of it. And I don't...won't speak to what the Omaha business community did. That's their prerogative to handle it in the way they choose. I just believe strongly that this is very much needed and it is \$100,000 that will ensure that those other appropriations that were made will be well spent. I believe we should do this and I would hope that you would support the adoption of this amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Hall. Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members. I'm just going to say two quick things. One, Senator Hall, you were talking about the history and I'm not going to ask you a question, I just think we should remember this did happen in the